THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Wholesale privatisation of PSUs

957. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to newsitem appeared in Hindustan Times of January 16, 1997 stating that the Government proposes for wholesale privatisation of PSUs in the country; and

(b) whether it is agreed to in their common minimum programme?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Strategies have been formulated for restructuring of the PSUs of the Department of Heavy Industry in accordance with the policies enunciated in the Common Minimum Programme. These inter-alia include:

(i) Permitting BHEL, which has potential to become a global giant, to access the investment fund out of the disinvestment proceeds, to enable it to offer internationally competitive financial and credit packages.

(ii) Strengthening of PSUs by formation of Joint Ventures for one or more of their units in order to enhance the competitiveness and viability of the enterprises by infusion of technology, modern management techniques and marketing strength.

(iii) Creation of a revolving fund from out of 10% of the disinvestment proceeds for infusion of funds in accordance with approved rehabilitation schemes to facilitate quick implementation of turn-around plans.

Decision regarding automatic approvals of foreign equity

958. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's decision to expand the list of industries where automatic approvals of foreign equity are permitted has had any impact on the flow of foreign investment in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Since the expansion of the list of industries for automatic approval for foreign investment has been done recently, it is premature to comment on its immediate impact on the inflow of foreign investment.

Guidelines for FDI

959. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new guidelines have been issued for foreign direct investment proposals; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To provide greater transparency in decision making, the Government have recently, vide Press Note No. 3 (1997 Series) (copy annexed) dated 17th January, 1997, issued a set of guidelines for consideration of foreign direct investment proposals by the FIPB. [*See Appendix 180, Annexure No. 21*]

नौवीं योजना में प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार योजना के अधीन सहायता

960. **श्री वी॰ हनुमंत राव:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नौवीं योजना में प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार योजना कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत 20 लाख लोगों को सहायता दी जानी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कार्यक्रम का पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या राज्यवार लक्ष्यों को अंतिम रूप दे दिया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो नौवीं योजना में आंध्र प्रदेश में कितने लाभभोगियों का लक्ष्य रखा गया है?